



Press Release
Shelby County Sheriff's Office
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SCSO to Participate in Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

On **Saturday, September 27th** from **10am to 2:00pm**, the Shelby County Sheriff's Office and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your pills for disposal to one of three locations; **1080 Madison, 7942 Winchester and 11635 Hwy 70.**

Note; The DEA **cannot** accept liquids or needles, only pills or patches.

The service is **free and anonymous**, with no questions asked.

Last April, Americans turned in 390 tons, (over 780,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at nearly 6,100 sites operated by the DEA and more than 4,400 of its state and local law enforcement partners. When those results are combined with what was collected in its eight previous '**Take Back**' events, DEA and its partners have taken in over **4.1 million** pounds and more than **2,100 tons** of pills.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines, flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash both pose potential safety and health hazards. This effort by the **Shelby County Sheriff's Office** is serving a need to keep the environment safe of those unwanted medications and prescription drugs.

